## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

BERTRAM LOEB, :

Plaintiff,

v. : Case No. 02-CV-3833

:

BANK OF AMERICA

and

HERBERT S. GARTEN, ESQUIRE; SHELDON G. DAGURT, ESQUIRE;

FEDDER & GARTEN, P.A.

:

Defendants.

MOTION OF THE LAW FIRM DEFENDANTS TO DISMISS FOR LACK OF PERSONAL JURISDICTION AND FOR IMPROPER VENUE OR, IN THE ALTERNATIVE, TO TRANSFER PURSUANT TO 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a)

Pursuant to Fed. R. Civ. P. 12(b)(2) and 12(b)(3), Defendants Herbert S. Garten, Esquire ("Mr. Garten"), Sheldon G. Dagurt, Esquire ("Mr. Dagurt"), and Fedder and Garten Professional Association ("F&G") (collectively, "the Law Firm Defendants"), by their undersigned attorneys, hereby move to dismiss for lack of personal jurisdiction and for improper venue or, in the alternative, to transfer pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a). The grounds for this motion are as follows:

- (a) this lawsuit arises from the operations and governance of a Maryland corporation which is located in Maryland and the stock of which is primarily owned by Maryland trusts;
- (b) specific or general personal jurisdiction does not exist over the Law Firm Defendants, who are Maryland lawyers without minimum contacts with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania;

- (c) Plaintiffs' complaint does not allege any of the prerequisites for venue under 28 U.S.C. § 1391(a);
- the record affirmatively shows that none of the statutory (d) prerequisites for venue exists; and
- (e) even assuming arguendo that the lack of personal jurisdiction and the improper venue could be overlooked, a discretionary transfer of venue would nevertheless be appropriate and necessary pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a).

Additional grounds for this motion are set forth in the accompanying memorandum, which is incorporated herein by reference.

WHEREFORE, the Law Firm Defendants request that this Court dismiss this action for lack of personal jurisdiction and for improper venue or, in the alternative, transfer this action to the United States District Court for the District of Maryland pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a).

## Respectfully submitted, Melissa H. Maxman Charlene Keller Fullmer **DUANE MORRIS LLP Suite 4200** One Liberty Place Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-7396 tel.: (215) 979-1000 fax: (215) 979-1020 Attorneys for Defendants Herbert S. Garten, Esquire, Sheldon G. Dagurt, Esquire, and Fedder

and Garten Professional Association

Of Counsel:

Andrew Jay Graham Geoffrey H. Genth KRAMON & GRAHAM, P.A. One South Street, Suite 2600 Baltimore, Maryland 21202

tel.: (410) 752-6030 fax: (410) 539-1269

Dated: August 19, 2002

## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 19th day of August, 2002, copies of the foregoing Motion of the Law Firm Defendants to Dismiss for Lack of Personal Jurisdiction and For Improper Venue Or, in the Alternative, To Transfer Pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1404(a) and the accompanying Memorandum of Law, Request for Oral Argument, and Proposed Order were mailed, first-class and postage prepaid, to:

> Paul A. Logan, Esquire Malcolm B. Jacobson, Esquire Thomas J. Bogar, Esquire Kevin K. Carton, Jr. Powell, Trachtman, Logan, Carrle, Bowman & Lombardo, P.C. 475 Allendale Road, Suite 200 King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406; and

Mark A. Klugheit, Esquire Erin A. Brennan, Esquire Dechert 4000 Bell Atlantic Tower 1717 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103.

Charlene Keller Fullmer

4